

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 7 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Thus, claims 1, 2, 6-9 and 11 remain pending. In view of the following remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all presently pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 2, 4-9 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Khan et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0171934) in view of Gordon (U.S. Patent No. 5,938,645).

Applicants previously amended claim 1 to recite, *inter alia*, “wherein at least one of the localizers contains an independent source for electromagnetic or acoustic radiation.” (See, AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, dated 3/6/12). The Examiner traversed the amendment and associated arguments in the Advisory Action dated 3/15/12 by stating that Khan et al. includes “radiofrequency coils in response to a magnetic field gradient, transmit magnetic resonance signals that are detected by another component for processing.”

Applicants have further amended claim 1 to recite, *inter alia*, “wherein at least one of the localizers contains a source generating electromagnetic or acoustic radiation independent of any external field.” As stated by the Examiner in the Advisory Action, the teaching of Khan et al. is that the coils transmit signals “in response to a magnetic field gradient.” Thus, these signals are dependent upon an external magnetic field.

Accordingly, neither Khan et al nor Gordon, either alone or in combination, teach or suggest “wherein at least one of the localizers contains a source generating electromagnetic or acoustic radiation independent of any external field,” as recited in claim 1. Thus, the rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims 2, 6 and 11 should be withdrawn.

Claim 7 has been amended to recite “wherein at least one of the localizers contains a source generating electromagnetic or acoustic radiation independent of any

external field.” Thus, the rejection of claim 7 and its dependent claims 8 and 9 should be withdrawn for the same reasons presented above with reference to claim 1.

CONCLUSION

It is therefore respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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